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Attorney Docket No.: 03/079K
Customer No. 38263

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Dirk AUF DER HEIDE *et al.*

International Application No.: PCT/EP2004/010645

International Filing Date: September 22, 2004

For: *Smoke-permeable Polyamide Based Food Casing*

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-145

Charlotte, North Carolina
March 8, 2006

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified PCT patent application as follows to bring it into conformance with United States national stage filing requirements:

Amendments to the Specification are provided beginning on Page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on Page 6 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 9 of this paper.